



Burglary

Definition

The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program defines burglary as the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or theft. To classify an offense as a burglary, the use of force to gain entry need not have occurred. The Program has three subclassifications for burglary: forcible entry, unlawful entry where no force is used, and attempted forcible entry. The UCR definition of “structure” includes, for example, apartment, barn, house trailer or houseboat when used as a permanent dwelling, office, railroad car (but not automobile), stable, and vessel (i.e., ship).

Overview

- In 2006, there were an estimated 2,183,746 burglary offenses—an increase of 1.3 percent when compared with 2005 data.
- An examination of 5- and 10-year trends revealed an increase of 1.5 percent in the number of burglaries when compared with the 2002 estimate and a decline of 11.2 percent when compared with the 1997 estimate. (See Tables 1 and 1A.)
- Burglary accounted for 21.9 percent of the estimated number of property crimes committed in 2006. (Based on Table 1.)
- In 2006, burglary offenses cost victims an estimated \$4 billion in lost property. (Based on Tables 1 and 23.)
- The average dollar loss per burglary offense in 2006 was \$1,834.
- Of the burglary offenses in 2006, 66.2 percent were of residential structures. (See Table 23.)
- Of the burglaries for which the time of occurrence was known, 63.1 percent of residential burglaries took place during the day.

- Among burglaries of nonresidential structures when time of occurrence was known, 56.7 percent occurred at night. (Based on Table 23.)

Expanded burglary data

Expanded offense data are the details of the various offenses that the Program collects beyond the count of how many crimes law enforcement agencies report. These details may include the type of weapons used in a crime, type or value of items stolen, and so forth. In addition, expanded data include trends (for example, 2-year comparisons) and rates per 100,000 inhabitants.

Expanded information regarding burglary is available in the following tables:

Trends (2-year): Tables 12, 13, 14, and 15

Rates (per 100,000 inhabitants): Tables 16, 17, 18, and 19

Offense Analysis: Tables 7 and 23

What you won't find on this page

- Larceny-theft and robbery data.
- Clearance and arrest data for burglary.